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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Peregrino Ferreira et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD AND COMPOSITION FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA VIRUS DISEASE BY USING THE RECOMBINANT CAPSID PROTEIN VIRUS (P26)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following:

--The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 09/313,262, filed June 18, 1999, which was the National Stage of International application No. PCT/BR97/00081, filed December 19, 1997, which corresponds to Brazilian application Serial No. PI 9606273-8, filed December 18, 1996, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

PEREGRINO FERREIRA et al.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Andrew J. Patch

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January 16, 2001